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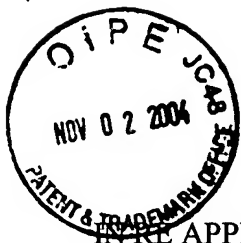
TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10769,743	
	Filing Date	01/23/2004	
	First Named Inventor	Robert L. Diaz	
	Art Unit	3732	
	Examiner Name		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	2385.005

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to a Technology Center (TC)
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual	Michael A. Slavin McHale & Slavin, P.A.	
Signature		
Date	10/23/04	

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR APPLICANT : Robert L. Diaz

INVENTION: : DISK ARTHROPLASTY INSTRUMENTATION AND IMPLANTS

SERIAL NUMBER : 10/769,743

FILING DATE : January 23, 2004

EXAMINER: :

GROUP ART UNIT : 3732

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 2385.005

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 10-27-2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the Duty to Disclose under 37 CFR §1.56, the references cited on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08A are hereby brought to the attention of the Examiner for independent evaluation. Pursuant to the Official Gazette Notice dated August 5, 2003, Applicants are not required to submit copies of the cited U.S. patent references. Copies of the other cited documents are attached. The references were cited in the specification and their relevancy is set forth therein.

Applicants submit that the present invention is patentable over these references.

Date: 10/27/04

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael A. Slavin

Reg. No. 34,016

McHale & Slavin, P.A.

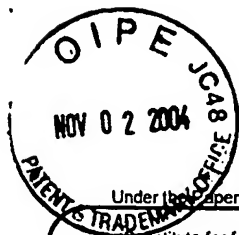
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/769,743
Filing Date	01/23/2004
First Named Inventor	Robert L. Diaz
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	2385.005

Sheet 1 of 2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- Re 36,758	06/27/2000	W. Fitz	
		US- 3,867,728	02/25/1975	J. Stubstad et al.	
		US- 4,309,777	01/12/1982	A. Patil	
		US- 4,349,921	09/21/1982	J. Kuntz	
		US- 4,735,754	04/05/1988	H. Buckner	
		US- 4,759,766	07/26/1988	Buettner-Janz et al.	
		US- 4,759,769	07/26/1988	T. Hedman et al.	
		US- 4,863,477	09/05/1989	G. Monson	
		US- 5,071,437	12/10/1991	A. Steffee	
		US- 5,123,926	06/23/1992	M. Pisharodi	
		US- 5,258,031	11/02/1993	R. Salib et al.	
		US- 5,306,307	04/26/1994	H. Senter et al.	
		US- 5,314,477	05/24/1994	T. Marnay	
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		US- 5,376,323	12/27/1994	L. Eaton	
		US- 5,401,269	03/28/1995	Buttner-Janz et al.	
		US- 5,425,773	06/20/1995	L. Boyd et al.	
		US- 5,458,642	10/17/1995	J. Beer et al.	
		US- 5,514,180	05/07/1996	Heggeness et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

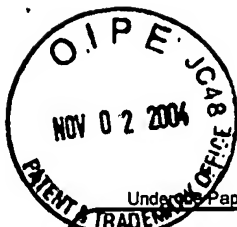
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO98/48717	11/05/1998	J. Taylor		

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,527,312	06/18/1996	R. Ray	
		US- 5,545,229	08/13/1996	J. Parsons et al.	
		US- 5,556,431	09/17/1996	Buttner-Janz	
		US- 5,562,738	10/08/1996	L. Boyd et al.	
		US- 5,676,701	10/14/1997	H. Yuan et al.	
		US- 5,700,288	12/23/1997	L. Eaton	
		US- 5,702,454	12/30/1997	W. Baumgartner	
		US- 5,824,093	10/20/1998	C. Ray et al.	
		US- 5,824,094	10/20/1998	H. Serhan et al.	
		US- 5,855,606	01/05/1999	L. Eaton	
		US- 6,001,130	12/14/1999	V. Bryan et al.	
		US- 6,039,763	03/21/2000	A. Shelokov	
		US- 6,113,637	06/05/2000	S. Gill et al.	
		US- 6,132,464	10/17/2000	J. Martin	
		US- 6,146,419	11/14/2000	L. Eaton	
		US- 6,146,421	11/14/2000	D. Gordon et al.	
		US- 6,283,998	09/04/2001	L. Eaton	
		US- 6,419,703	07/16/2002	T. Fallin et al.	
		US- 6,565,605	05/20/2003	E. Goble et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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